

Fair and warm tonight and tomorrow; light, variable winds.

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AUDITOR'S FATE HANGS IN BALANCE

Commissioners Will Decide His Case Today.

PROBABLY WILL BE REMOVED

Possible That He May Be Given Another Position Under the District Government.

The fate of James T. Petty, for fifteen years Auditor for the District of Columbia, will be decided this afternoon, unless the present plans of the Commissioners miscarry. A meeting of the three Commissioners was held this morning, at which time it was thought best to take some definite action in the matter immediately.

Commissioner West submitted his recommendation and the reasons therefor. Colonel Biddle had not prepared a statement, but retired to his office immediately after the conference to prepare one. He will have this completed at 2:30 this afternoon, when another session of the Board of Commissioners will be held, the question considered, and the action announced.

What disposition will be made of the case cannot be foreseen. Interviews with the Commissioners individually failed to elicit anything which would give the least idea of their wishes in the matter, but it is practically assured that Mr. Petty will not continue as Auditor.

May Be Transferred. A remedy which has been unofficially suggested is that Mr. Petty will be given some other position in the department which he has for so many years served, and that he will be relieved of any financial responsibility. Mr. Petty has served the District government thirty-two years, and his honesty and integrity have never been questioned.

In the present difficulty it has never been suggested that he has been guilty of anything but negligence, and for that reason alone it is not probable that he will be removed from the Government service entirely. The knowledge of the District finances which he has acquired during his many years' service make him of considerable value to the Auditor's office, and it is not likely that the District government will deprive itself of that advantage, while the facts surrounding the alleged Watson defalcation make it imperative that some one else assume the duties of Auditor.

Mr. Petty's Career. James Thomas Petty came to Washington immediately after the civil war, in which he served with honor, in the ranks of the Confederate army. He engaged in the shoe business, making a fair competence until 1870 when he was appointed bookkeeper in the office of the Comptroller of the city of Washington.

When a few years later the local government was consolidated into the District of Columbia, Mr. Petty continued in the Comptroller's office, and in 1876 was appointed head bookkeeper, to succeed Mr. Gill, who was removed for alleged misuse of funds.

In 1888 he was appointed Auditor, succeeding Isaac Tichenor, resigned, in which capacity he has since continued.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE SCHOOL CHARTERED

A certificate of the incorporation of the School of Physical Science was filed today in the office of the Recorder of Deeds. The capital stock is \$100,000, and the incorporators S. B. Chamberlain, A. L. Chamberlain, and Andrew MacMillan.

JOHN W. THOMPSON'S WILL FILED FOR PROBATE

The will of John W. Thompson, who died May 21 last, was today filed for probate. The document is dated September 11, 1902, and by its terms the testator leaves his estate to his wife, Nettie Virginia Thompson.

WEATHER REPORT.

Warm weather continues in the East and South. In the Western districts it is much cooler. Fair and warm weather will continue in the Eastern districts tonight and tomorrow. Showers are indicated for the lower lake region, the Ohio valley, and the east Gulf States tomorrow. No important temperature changes are anticipated.

TEMPERATURE.

9 A. M. 86
12 Noon. 89
1 P. M. 93

DOWNTOWN.

9 a. m. 84
12 m. 87
1 p. m. 90

THE SUN.

Sun sets today 7:40 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow 4:27 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.

High tide tomorrow 3:12 a. m.
High tide tomorrow 3:46 a. m., 4:21 p. m.
Low tide tomorrow 10:28 a. m., 10:42 p. m.

BIG FLOOD FOLLOWS TEXAS CLOUDBURST

Streets of Gainesville Resemble Flowing River and Many Residents Forced to Leave Their Homes.

GAINESVILLE, Texas, July 3.—The greatest flood seen here in many years now prevails. No estimate can as yet be made as to the damage done by the waters. The streets resemble flowing rivers, rather than the thoroughfares of a city.

Pecan Creek, which flows through the city, and Elm Creek are at their highest marks and are rising rapidly. Numerous houses along the banks are in danger of being washed away. Numerous parties are striving to reach and aid those pressed by the waters.

Around the Santa Fe and "Katy" stations water is flowing to the depth of six or seven feet. Taylor & Simpson's large wholesale house is in danger of being flooded. A thousand sacks of flour have been carried there and are being stacked around the store in an effort to keep out the water. People

In the west end of the town have been compelled to leave their homes on account of the water flowing through the streets and houses.

A report has just been received that the people in the northeast portion of the city are surrounded by water and are not able to get away. It is feared that loss of life will follow. A party of men is now being formed to try to get them into a safer part of the city. The water in the eastern part of the town is rising again at a rapid rate.

Telephone messages from the towns of Lindsay and Munster say that a cloudburst occurred. No lives are reported lost. The report has just been received here that No. 6, the northbound passenger train on the Santa Fe, went into the ditch near Valley View, ten miles north of Gainesville, and that the engineer Greman and postal clerk are missing.

SHAMROCK I LEADS LIPTON'S NEW YACHT

Old English Defender in Front at Noon.

WILL PROBABLY WIN RACE

Does Not Look as if Sir Thomas' New Boat Can Overcome Handicap of Five Minutes in Fifteen Miles.

HIGHLANDS, N. J., July 3.—Wind and weather conditions were perfect today for a successful trial spin between the two Shamrocks. The wind, which is from the northwest, was about nine knots, with a sparkling sea.

As early as 7 o'clock there was great activity on board of the two Shamrocks, the crews performing the usual day's routine work. Head sails on both yachts were up in stops, and mainsails were hoisted. Club topsails were sent up shortly after 8:30 o'clock.

At 10 o'clock Sir Thomas Lipton and Designer Fife put off in a launch from the Erin for Shamrock III, which they boarded, and at the same time Colonel Neill, Sir Thomas' representative in the United States, went on board Shamrock I. Five minutes later the two yachts slipped their mooring ropes and, swinging around, headed under sail for the point of the Hook. The tug Cruiser followed the yachts, the Erin waiting, the return of a launch from the Atlantic Highlands with guests of the baronet.

Old Boat Gains. At 10:23 o'clock, while in the ship channel, Shamrock III took down her baby jib and immediately the old boat began to gain on her. In two minutes Shamrock I had wiped out the stretch of water between them and passed the challenger, which was still sailing without any jib topsail.

At 10:35 Shamrock I was more than a quarter of a mile ahead of the new yacht. At 11:30 a. m. Shamrock I passed the Sandy Hook lightship, and five minutes later the Shamrock III passed.

The yachts at noon were working in the haze on the horizon and Shamrock I had lost none of her lead. It does not look as if the new boat can overcome the five-minute handicap in the fifteen miles to leeward, although she is pulling up a little. Commodore Todd's Thistle is following the yachts over the run.

EXEMPTING CHURCH PROPERTY FROM TAX

Commissioner West this morning approved the application of the trustees of the Fifth Baptist Church asking that the church property be ordered exempt from taxes from June, 1902. The matter has been in the hands of the Commissioners for some time upon a question of whether church property should be made exempt from the date of the first service, June, 1902. Assessor Darnelle reported some time ago that the law regarding such matters exempted property from "the date of the first actual occupancy" of the building.

Commissioner West is of the opinion that the property should be made exempt from the date of the first service, June, 1902. Assessor Darnelle reported some time ago that the law regarding such matters exempted property from "the date of the first actual occupancy" of the building.

MAY BE NO WELCOME FOR KING EDWARD

DUBLIN, July 3.—Today's meeting of the city corporation was the scene of a heated discussion over the question of presenting an address of welcome to King Edward on the occasion of his proposed visit to Ireland.

After an hour and a half of discussion the confusion became deafening and the lord mayor adjourned the meeting indefinitely.

FIRST MOTORMAN DEAD.

RICHMOND, Va., July 3.—Alonso Tyler, aged seventy-three, the first man in the United States to act as motorman on a trolley line, died at his home here last night. The first line in the United States was built here and Tyler ran the first car.

AMBASSADOR PORTER IS NOT TO RESIGN

State Department Contradicts Persistent Rumors.

NO THOUGHT OF RETIRING

Candidates to Succeed Him Should Post Become Vacant—Mayor Low and B. I. Wheeler Mentioned.

Persistent reports that the Hon. Horace Porter, United States ambassador to France, intends to resign are set at rest by the declaration made at the State Department this morning that Mr. Porter has not in any way intimated to the department his desire to retire from the diplomatic service.

If Ambassador Porter has expressed any intention of resigning he has only done so to the President, who has never communicated such an expression on the part of the ambassador to the State Department. It is quite probable that if Mr. Porter thought of leaving Paris some knowledge of the fact would have reached the State Department.

It is believed that the death of Mrs. Porter not long ago prompted the belief that the ambassador would retire, and forthwith there was discussion of several men thought to be available as his successor.

Mayor Low mentioned when the report was first started that Mr. Porter would resign, but it is extremely doubtful if Mr. Low would accept the position if it were vacant and tendered to him. He is considered to be the strongest man the fusionists can nominate this fall to make the majority race against the Tammany ticket, and his supporters in Greater New York would not listen to his appointment to the diplomatic service.

Recently Benjamin Ide Wheeler, president of the University of California, has been mentioned as Ambassador Porter's successor. He entertained the President for a time while the latter was on the Pacific Coast.

President Wheeler's Office. It is said that President Wheeler gave great offense to the Hearst Presidential bidders when the President was at the university, and delivered an address.

It has been reported that President Wheeler, in reading a long list of the beneficiaries of the institution omitted all mention of William R. Hearst and his mother, Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, who have endowed the university with more than a million dollars.

HUNDREDS INJURED IN COLLAPSE OF TENT

Heavy Gale Plays Havoc With Maine Circusgoers.

MACHIAS, Me., July 3.—Nearly 300 persons were more or less seriously injured yesterday afternoon by the collapse of Saxtelle's circus tent.

The wind blew a gale all day and when the performance was about half over a strong gust flattened out the animal tent and immediately afterward the big show tent came crashing down, the poles falling heavily among the 2,500 spectators.

Pandemonium reigned for a time, but a number of men slashed the sides of the tent with knives, thus affording a hundred exits which enabled the people to escape.

Lottie Clark, daughter of Capt. Austin Clark, of Machiasport, was struck by a falling tent pole. It is feared that she will not live. James Clement, of Machias, was crushed under the seats, and he is likely to die. About fifty others were more or less seriously hurt and perhaps 150 slightly injured.

SUICIDE AFTER ARREST.

DOYLESTOWN, Pa., July 3.—Lewis N. Blank, of Richboro, who was arrested on Tuesday, charged with stealing flowers from graves, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head shortly after his arrest prompted the act.

FIRM IN ATTITUDE TOWARD RUSSIA

President Determined to Forward Petition.

SITUATION NOT CHANGED

B'nai-B'rith Statement to Be Sent to Charge d'Affaires at St. Petersburg With Instructions.

The Hon. Simon Wolf, upon behalf of the executive committee of the B'nai B'rith, has informed the State Department that the petition to the Czar relative to the treatment of Jews in Russia, and which this Government has consented to transmit, will not be ready for a week or ten days. The society has sent out copies of the petition to all the principal cities of the United States, asking for signatures.

The signatures, Mr. Wolf has explained, will not be limited to persons of Hebrew faith, but that effort is being made to obtain the signatures of prominent men and women of various religious beliefs. Of course, as is quite natural, probably a majority of the signers will be Jews prominent in the professional and business world.

No Change in Situation.

There has been no change in the Russian situation within the past two days, and the declared purpose of the President to transmit the address will be carried out as soon as it is received at the State Department. Nothing that has been said or the intimation from Russia that the address will not be received will deter the President in his determination.

The address will be sent to Mr. Riddle, the charge d'affaires at St. Petersburg, during the absence of Ambassador McCormick. It will be accompanied by a note telling Mr. Riddle expressly what to do.

He will be instructed to learn from the Russian foreign office whether or not the address will be received. In case the Russian government does decline to receive it, as it is intimated will be the case, no announcement has been made as to what course will be followed, although it is difficult to see what further can be done.

THINKS OUTLOOK FOR LABOR ENCOURAGING

Mitchell Sees Good in National Civic Federation.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., July 3.—John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, in an interview today, said:

"As a representative of the laboring class I wish to say that I agree with all of Senator Hanna's expressed opinions on the labor question. It is true that the labor situation in the United States is good and growing better. It is equally true that there is great promise of good in the work of the National Civic Federation."

"The public does not hear of the strikes which are prevented, and therefore cannot estimate the real good which the Civic Federation is accomplishing."

"There will always be strikes, just as there will always be wars between nations, but there will be fewer strikes year after year and less and less situations where a stubborn difference between employer and employed is left to grow greater, while each side abuses the other at large range. I speak for the laboring man, and I say that the labor situation in America is encouraging."

RUSSIAN NOBLEMAN ACCUSED OF FRAUD

Baron Nexkuell Wanted for False Pretenses in Munich.

MUNICH, July 3.—A warrant has been issued for the arrest of a Russian nobleman, Baron Nexkuell, on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses.

The baron borrowed \$200,000 from friends and promptly spent it all in high living. Of this amount it is said he obtained \$5,000 by fraud. When his money was partly gone he went to Monte Carlo and tried to retrieve his fortune, but failed and returned here in rags. His father, who is a millionaire, disowned him and he was left in absolute penury.

MISSING STUDENTS DISCOVERED ALIVE

GENEVA, July 3.—The seven students of the Zurich High School who, with a master, were reported to have been killed in an avalanche at Mount Pilz Blaz white on a tour of observation on June 26, have been found alive by parties sent to search for the bodies.

The students were suffering terribly from exhaustion and cold. They were immediately removed to Zurich and the best medical attendance provided. It is believed all will recover.

ROOSEVELTS ENJOY DAY ON THE SOUND

Fishing Excursion to Be Followed by Picnic on Coast—Busy Day for the President Tomorrow.

OYSTER BAY, July 3.—President Roosevelt and his entire family went picnicking this morning and do not expect to return to Sagamore Hill until dark.

They went by boat, or rather by bontas, for it required a couple of skiffs to hold the entire party that set out from the west Roosevelt pier at 6 o'clock. The President was the skipper of one of the stanch craft and "Ted" of the other.

Big hampers of provisions were taken along to appease the tremendous appetites that the outing was expected to produce. Fishing tackle for all hands was also carried. Archie was anxious at first to take along Algonquin, the "calico pony," and Quentin thought that Josiah, "the Badger," ought to be of the party, but both were finally convinced that the pets would be happier at home, where there is no danger of their getting seasick.

The party will eat lunch somewhere on the Long Island coast, six or seven miles from home, will drop their lines wherever they think the prospect is promising, and will proceed leisurely back in time to eat a home dinner at the usual hour. No guests are expected at Sagamore Hill today.

Tomorrow promises to be the busiest day of the President's vacation. He will exchange messages over the newly completed Pacific cable, with Governor Taft at Manila, and will then send a congratulatory message around the globe to Clarence W. Mackay, at New York.

Early in the afternoon the President and his family will sail to Huntington, L. I., on the Sylph, where the Chief Magistrate is to be the orator of the day at the celebration of the town's 250th anniversary. In the evening the President will assist the youngsters of the household to celebrate the Fourth with fireworks and colored lights at Sagamores Hill.

FULL PRICES PAID FOR SHORT WEIGHT GOODS

Sealer of Weights Haskell Has Made Investigation.

GREAT FRAUD ON THE PUBLIC

Cans Containing Lard, Chipped Beef, Crackers, and Other Edibles Found Deficient in Quantity.

W. C. Haskell, Sealer of Weights and Measures for the District, is authority for the statement that the public is paying too high a price for its dried and chipped beef, lard and cakes and crackers packed in boxes. This condition of affairs has been brought about, declares Mr. Haskell, by the deficiency in weight supplied by the packers of these goods.

An investigation touching upon short weights in dried and chipped beef is now under way, and promises to be effectual in supplying the prescribed amount to each box.

Half a Pound Short. The Sealer of Weights and Measures has found that in many instances cans supposed to contain three pounds of lard in reality contain but two and a half pounds, although the purchaser is paying for the former amount.

Another complaint which has reached Mr. Haskell is directed against prominent dealers in cakes and crackers who sell their wares in boxes purporting to weigh six and a half pounds, and which actually contain only five pounds or a little more. This means either a loss to the retail dealer or to the purchaser, inasmuch as the weight of the box is included in the quantity marked on the outside.

Mr. Haskell has declared that such practices are illegal in the District, and believes that definite steps to prohibit them will be taken in a short while.

A little more than a week ago Mr. Haskell issued a letter of warning regarding the dried and chipped beef. The dealers who cut the beef and sell it in half pound and pound boxes to grocers are said to put but six ounces to the half pound and a proportionate amount to the pound. The public pays for the full weight and has been doing so for some time.

In his letter to retail dealers, Mr. Haskell emphatically points out that a half pound box of provisions must contain a full half pound of the goods exclusive of the weight of the box.

MINISTER BARRETT DELAYS DEPARTURE

Has Still Much to Accomplish for St. Louis Exposition.

John Barrett, the newly appointed minister to the Argentine Republic, is not to depart for his station for several months. He is at the Shoreham, and in speaking of his intentions, he said:

"I still have too much to do in connection with my St. Louis Exposition work to leave before fall. Part of this is in connection with the Chinese exhibition, which is to be one of the largest ever sent out of the Flowery Kingdom. China has appropriated \$400,000 to pay the expense of her display."

"Japan has agreed to take as much space as either France or Germany. The Philippine exhibit is expected to cost between \$500,000 and \$700,000. India, Ceylon, Korea and New Zealand are also to send large exhibits."

Mr. Barrett traveled 45,000 miles in behalf of the exposition collecting exhibits, and he says the exposition is going to be the greatest ever given by any country at any time in the history of the world.

ODELL AT WARSAW.

BUFFALO, July 3.—Governor Odell yesterday participated in the centennial celebration of the founding of Warsaw at that town.

POLITICS INVOLVED IN LITTAUER CASE

New Aspect Developed by Gossip Over Contract.

OPPOSED BY PLATT MACHINE

Inquiry in War Department Limited to Examination of Army Officers. Senator Proctor's Contract.

The War Department is continuing its investigation of the matter of the Lyon contracts for supplying gloves and gauntlets to the quartermaster's department, in which contracts Representative Littauer is alleged to have been interested. As yet no developments have resulted.

General Davis, the Judge Advocate General of the Army and law officer of the department, has the matter in charge to look up the legal points involved, and the contracts will be thoroughly scrutinized.

The two points toward which the investigation ordered by Secretary Root will be directed are to ascertain whether or not any officer of the quartermaster's department was cognizant of the alleged fact that Representative Littauer was interested in the contracts, and the repayment of the money in case it is shown that while a member of Congress he received a share of the profits upon the contracts, as the statute provides that it shall be returned.

There is practically nothing to show that any army officer had any knowledge of Littauer's interest, although it was known that his firm supplied a large portion of the goods purchased by Lyon as the jobber or contractor. So far as anyone is aware Mr. Littauer never called at the War Department in regard to the contracts, and his statement made in Groversville explains why he suggested the advisability of seeing General Ludington.

A Political Recrudescence.

The statement has been made that when Lyon received the last contract, now about four years ago, he was not the lowest bidder, but that the bid of a San Francisco firm was lower than Lyon's. It is said that this bid was rejected because General Ludington did not regard the San Francisco firm as financially responsible, despite the fact that it agreed to furnish a bond of indemnity.

There is a strong intimation that the case against Littauer is largely one of politics. Several years ago there was some controversy between Senator Platt and Representative Littauer and the Representative was threatened with the loss of his nomination. He succeeded in winning, however, against the opposition of Senator Platt, and it is now said that the present case is in part the outgrowth of that affair.

Mr. Littauer is a warm personal friend of the President, and was identified with the Roosevelt faction in New York when Mr. Roosevelt was governor of the State. However, the investigation may result, it is said that Littauer is immune from punishment under the statute of limitations, in case it is found that he was interested pecuniarily in the contracts.

An Issue Over Gravestones.

Since the charges were made against Mr. Littauer the fact has developed that Senator Proctor of Vermont has been largely interested in the sale of tombstones to the Quartermaster's Department.

Senator Proctor and his family are the owners of the Vermont Marble Company at Proctor, Vt., and have for several years had the contracts for furnishing marble slabs to be placed at the graves of soldiers who die in the service and are interred in national cemeteries. Last year his company had a contract for 10,000 of these slabs.

His company was a bidder for the contracts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, but the bid was too high, and there was a second competition, with the result that the contract went to the Lee Marble Company, of Massachusetts.

An investigation which has been made of the matter, however, has developed the fact that Proctor's company is incorporated, and that therefore he is not subject to the law which would apply in the case of Representative Littauer if he is found to be interested in Government contracts.

U. S. GOLF ASSOCIATION PLANS BIG TOURNAMENT

MANCHESTER, Vt., July 3.—The United States Golf Association will hold a tournament on the Edwanok course here, early in September.

The entry list, which is to be limited to thirty-two, is composed of twenty of the best American players, selected by United States Golf Association, and twelve Englishmen, the latter being the Oxford-Cambridge golf team, which is coming to this country early in August. It will be one of the most important international matches ever played.

VON STERNBURG'S PROMOTION.

The German embassy here has received no official confirmation of Baron von Sternburg's promotion to the grade of ambassador to the United States. The report from Berlin is given full credence, however, as it has been understood that the notification would be sent direct to Baron von Sternburg at his summer place near The Weira, N. H.

TWO TRAINS WRECKED.

ST. PAUL, July 3.—It is reported that both the westbound Imperial Limited trains on the Central Pacific have been wrecked, one at Rosser and the other at Mossesjaw. No details have been received.